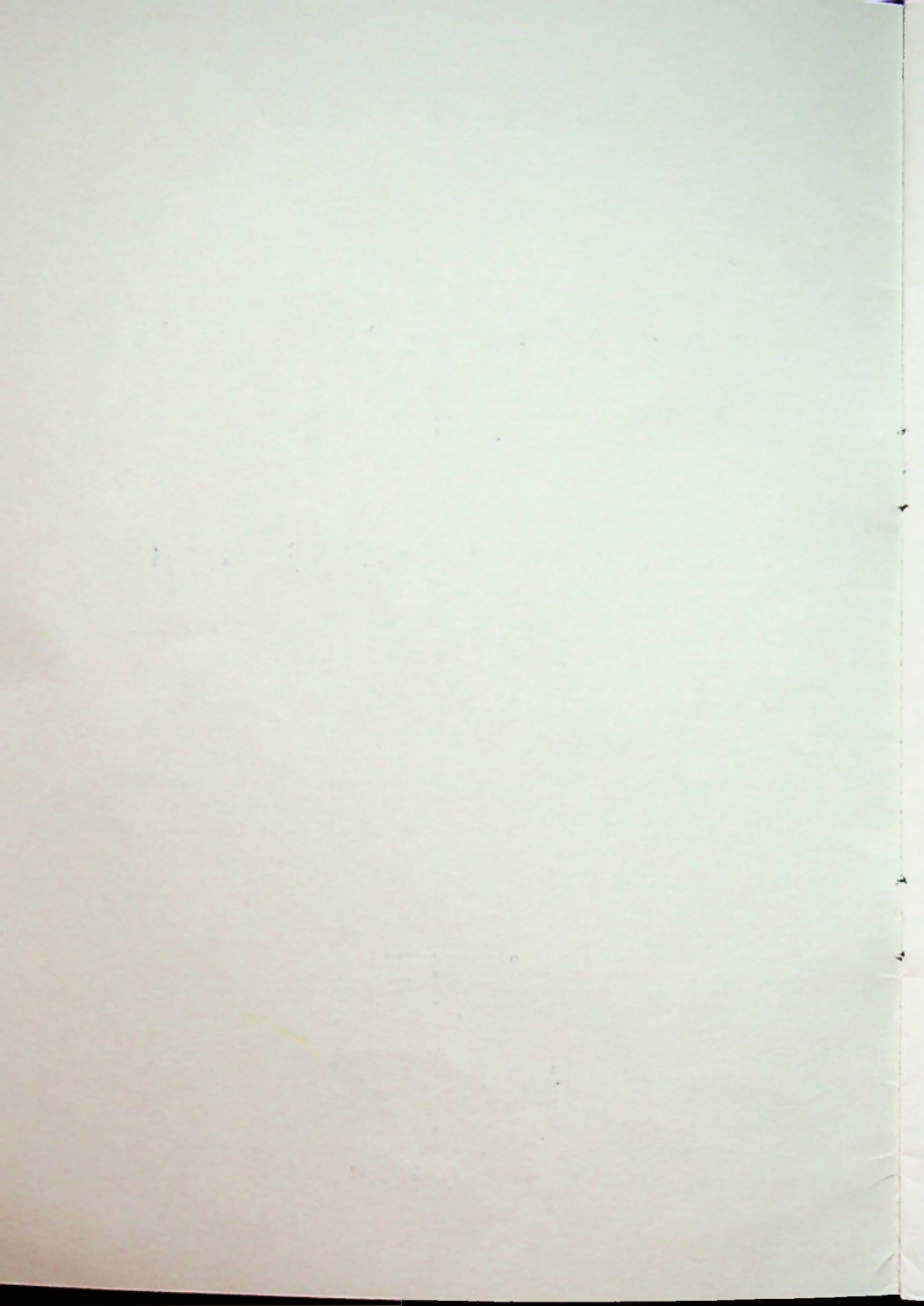


AN ORDER OF SERVICE FOR
1990

A CELEBRATION OF 75 YEARS
OF TOC H





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INTRODUCTION

HYMN of Praise

INTRODUCTION

We have gathered today for celebration. Seventy five years ago, on 11th December 1915, in Poperinge, just behind the front lines of Flanders, the doors of Talbot House opened. From that small beginning, under the charismatic leadership of Tubby Clayton, Toc H was born and grew to be a world-wide movement. For seventy five years people from all walks of life have joined the fellowship and activities of Toc H. All have taken part in a very special journey, a journey which will continue through this decade into a new century. Today we look back with thanksgiving for all that Toc H has been; we celebrate all that Toc H is, and we look forward to the future with hope and re-dedication.

We pray together:

ALL: **Father,**
 we have come into your presence
 with thanksgiving in our hearts.
 In this act of worship
 in which we celebrate the spirit
 which has guided Toc H,
 may we be led to dedicate our lives
 to that same Spirit of love and truth.
 Amen.

THANKSGIVING

SIT FOR THE READINGS

Reader 1:

Thus Jesus regarded all men as His brothers. They might ignore, despise, persecute or respond to Him. His attitude to them remained unchanged. He was their friend and there were no tags to His friendship. He was at their service because He and they belonged together. To C H is an attempt to practise that way of meeting people. Members try it out even though many of them would not dream of claiming to be Christians. They are fellow-travellers who journey with some who are fully committed Christians. In this To C H is true to the earliest Christian tradition. Jesus chose twelve that they might share the road with Him. Others were gathered to his company. Jesus did not even ask whether they believed in God as He did. At the close of His life most of them had only the vaguest notion of what it was all about, yet through them He turned the world upside down.

(Herbert Leggate, *On the Way*, 1950)

Reader 2:

We recommend ourselves by the innocence of our behaviour, our grasp of truth, our patience and kindness; by gifts of the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by declaring the truth, by the power of God. We wield the weapons of righteousness in right hand and left.

(II Corinthians 6, 3-10)

KNEEL FOR PRAYER

Reader 1:

Lord God, we thank you
for all the good things you have given us in To C H
the joys of fellowship and service
the challenge to be fairminded,
the hope of your kingdom.

ALL:

Lord, we thank you.

Reader 2: We thank you
for Talbot House, Poperinge,
for those who served there
and for all who enjoyed that hospitality

ALL: Lord, we thank you.

Reader 1: We thank you
for all who have shared the journey of Toc H
through 75 years
all who have led the movement,
all who were and are members

ALL: Lord, we thank you.

Reader 2: We thank you
for all we have gained from Toc H
and for all that it has given to your world

ALL: Lord, we thank you.

Reader 1: We thank you
that your Spirit still guides and leads us.

ALL: Lord, we thank you.

(A silence of at least one minute is kept.)

Reader 2: In thanksgiving we pray

ALL: O God who has so wonderfully made Toc H, and set us in it to see our duty as thy will, teach us to live together in love and joy and peace; to check all bitterness; to disown discouragement; to practise thanksgiving, and to leap with joy to any task for others. Strengthen the good thing thus begun; that with gallant and high-hearted happiness we may work for thy kingdom in the wills of men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN of Thanksgiving

ADDRESS

CELEBRATION AND RE-DEDICATION

HYMN of Re-dedication

ALL SIT FOR THE READING

Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God whenever I think of you; and when I pray for you all, my prayers are always joyful, because of the part you have taken in the work of the gospel from the first day until now. Of one thing I am certain: the One who started the good work in you will bring it to completion by the Day of Christ Jesus... And this is my prayer, that your love may grow ever richer and richer in knowledge and insight of every kind, and may thus bring you the gift of true discrimination. Then on the Day of Christ you will be flawless and without blame, reaping the full harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

(Philippians 1, 2-6, 9-11)

ALL STAND

Reader 1: We remember with gratitude
all who gave loving service in Talbot House
especially Tubby Clayton

ALL: We will remember them.

Reader 2: We remember with gratitude
our elder brethren of Toc H through 75 years;
those known to us
and those known only to you

ALL: We will remember them.

Reader 1: We pray together

ALL: Teach us good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest;
to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed
the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour
and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing
that we do thy will. Through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.

THE CEREMONY OF LIGHT

(The Lamp, standing in a prominent position, is lit.)

Reader 2: With proud thanksgiving let us remember our elder
brethren.

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them

ALL: We will remember them.

(One minute's silence)

Reader 2: Let your light so shine before men
that they may see your good works

ALL: And glorify our Father which is in heaven.

(The Lamp is extinguished.)

Chaplain: We pray together

ALL: We celebrate Toc H in all its rich variety.
In thinking fairly
may we lessen prejudice;
In loving widely
may we encourage a spirit of reconciliation;
In witnessing humbly
may we develop a faith to live by;
In building bravely
may we create a world community
worthy of being called
the Kingdom of God
following the example of Jesus.
Amen.

Chaplain:

We re-dedicate ourselves to Toc H by saying together:

ALL:

In thanksgiving for the past 75 years of Toc H;
In celebration of all that Toc H is today;
We re-dedicate ourselves to the journey of
discovery in Toc H
through developing loving relationships
and seeking personal wholeness.

In token of this we affirm:
We are called to be instruments of God's will.
Where there is hatred, let us bring love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is sadness, joy;
And where there is darkness, let us bring light.

BLESSING BY THE CHAPLAIN

Go out into the world.

Carry with you God's love in your heart and share
it with all people.

Take with you Christ's peace and give it, in turn,
to all people who are in need of it.

Bear with you the Holy Spirit's blessing, and wherever you
go there may it abide.

So shall all people know that you have walked with God and
give thanks that you have also walked with them.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and all those whom you love,
now and for evermore. **Amen.**

HYMN

(Words by Barclay Baron.)

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Go forth with God! the day is now
That thou must meet the test of youth;
Salvation's helm upon thy brow,
Go, girded with the living truth.
In ways thine elder brethren trod
Thy feet are set. Go forth with God!

Think fair of all, and all men love,
And with the builder bear thy part;
Let every day and duty prove
The humble witness of thy heart,
Go forth! 'tis God bids thee increase
The bounds of love and joy and peace.

Behold with thine uplifted eyes
Beauty through all that sorrow seems,
And make of earth a paradise,
The substance of thy dearest dreams.
Bring laughter to thy great employ:
Go forth with God and find his joy.

Go forth with God! the world awaits
The coming of the pure and strong;
Strike for the faith and storm the gates
That keep the citadel of wrong.
Glory shall shine about thy road,
Great heart, if thou go forth with God!

NOTES on the Order of Service

The Order of Service attached has been specially written for the 75th birthday of Toc H in 1990. You are welcome to use the service exactly as printed, or you may use parts of it as appropriate. If only parts of it are used then it is hoped that the opening prayer, the dedication following the Ceremony of Light and the final hymn will be included in all celebration services.

HYMNS: At various points in the order of service it is suggested that hymns are sung. This, of course, is only a suggestion and a service with no hymns may be appropriate. Where hymns are to be sung you are encouraged to select well-known ones within the categories as indicated.

Some suggestions are:

HYMNS of Praise:

Let all the world in every corner sing
O praise ye the Lord!
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

HYMNS of Thanksgiving:

All creatures of our God and King
Now thank we all our God
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

HYMNS of Re-Dedication:

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart
O Jesus I have promised
O Love that wilt not let me go

The final hymn is printed in the order of service.

SPEAKERS: It is suggested that a variety of speakers take part in the service. Excluding the chaplain taking the service, there are opportunities for seven other people to participate in the readings, the prayers and the Ceremony of Light. Where speakers are not used to reading in public they should be encouraged to speak slowly and clearly.

ADDRESS: A point is indicated for an address to be given. If there is not to be an address then either the hymn of thanksgiving or the hymn of re-dedication is omitted.

USE OF SILENCE: Two specific moments for silence are included: once during the prayers and, as usual, in the Ceremony of Light. You are urged to make sure that at least one full minute of silence is kept at each of these points. Periods of silent reflection may be kept at other points in the service.

